

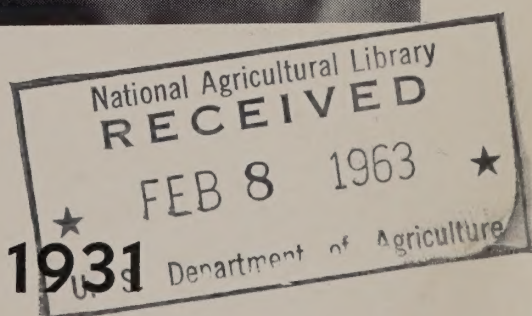
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DAHLIAS *for* 1963



"JODY GREGORY"
To be Introduced in 1964



DAHLIAS SINCE 1931

BY

COMSTOCK DAHLIA GARDENS

145 Dahlia Drive

Solana Beach

P. O. Box 308

California

U.S.A.

Your Invitation

To Our Open House

Our annual open house will be held again this year at our growing grounds at Solana Beach on Sunday and Monday, Sept. 1st and 2nd. We will be looking forward to seeing all our friends at that time. Bring your cameras and plenty of film as we expect to have several thousand dahlia plants in bloom at that time and it is really a photographer's paradise. For our many eastern friends may we suggest you plan your vacation trip to Southern California in time to be with us at our open house. Bring your picnic lunch and plan to spend the day.

JOIN THE DAHLIA SOCIETY

We would like to suggest that you join our local dahlia society.

If in or near San Diego, contact us for information regarding the San Diego County Dahlia Society. We will be pleased to assist you.

The San Diego County Dahlia Society will stage a dahlia show in San Diego August 4th and 5th, at which time we hope to see all of you with a share of the blooms to be displayed, so with best wishes for a grand dahlia year.

Sincerely yours,
R. Paul Comstock

POSTAGE

On orders for roots of \$5.00 or less for shipment after April 1st please add 50c to cover packing and mailing charges.

On all orders for roots requesting shipment before April 1st please add \$1.00 to cover mailing charges and special packing against freezing.

This does not apply to seed orders.

PINTO TAG NURSERY

A Pinto Tag Nursery is one that has met all the rigid requirements of plant inspection in the State of California, and is authorized to ship to other counties without destination inspection. This tag has been granted to us by the California Department of Agriculture.

 **To our friends anywhere in the State of California,
please remember to include 4% Sales Tax. 3% for
State Tax and 1% for your local tax.** 

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please Read Carefully!

SHIPPING INFORMATION

Plants and tubers are offered for sale on SATURDAYS and SUNDAYS from April 1st through June 1st, at our greenhouse at 145 Dahlia Drive in Solana Beach.

Our growing grounds are located in Solana Beach, twenty miles north of San Diego on Highway 101 (1½ miles north of Del Mar). The address is 145 Dahlia Drive, and is between Highway 101 and the Pacific Ocean.

We **DO NOT** ship plants. **PLEASE ORDER ROOTS or POT ROOTS** as these can be easily shipped to you by mail.

A sales tax of 4 percent is required by law in the State of California. Please add this to your order.

Placing Orders

We fill orders in rotation as they are received, so we would like to suggest to you that you place your order as early as possible to avoid the disappointment of our having sold out. No deposits are required. Pay any time before shipping date. No orders are shipped C.O.D.

Plants

We do not substitute so please make a second and third choice if possible.

TO OUR LOCAL CUSTOMERS

May we suggest that you mail us your order for plants and roots and let us notify you when your selection is ready to pick up. This will save you a great deal of time and will insure that the plants will be ready for planting at the time you get them.

Guarantee

All stock shipped by COMSTOCK DAHLIA GARDENS is guaranteed to be true to name and to be in good growing condition at time of sale; after that our responsibility ceases, as we have no control over growing conditions. Please notify us immediately upon arrival of plants, roots, or seed if unsatisfactory. The above guarantee does not go beyond replacement of the item purchased. We only guarantee dahlia seeds to be from varieties specified.

Disease

We thoroughly rogue our glass house, lath house and gardens throughout the entire season for diseased stock of any sort, and if we find any, it is immediately destroyed. We hope in this way to keep disease at an absolute minimum.

EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS

Classification—

- A—Large, over 9 inches in diameter.
- B—Medium, 6 to 9 inches in diameter.
- BB—Commercial, 4 to 6 inches in diameter.

Type of Flower—

- C—Cactus, S.C.—Semi Cactus, F.D.—Formal Decorative, I.D.—Informal Decorative, I.C.—Incurved Cactus, St.C—Straight Cactus, BA.—Ball Type, Min—Miniature.

Originator or Introducer—(Comstock).

Year of Introduction—1955.

Please place your orders early for next year's seed crop. Remember that we fill orders for seed in the order in which they are received.

Don't Be disappointed

ORDER EARLY

1963 — INTRODUCTIONS

Barbara Schell (Baynes) I.D. "A." 1963

A very large peach pink with exceptionally good substance and depth. Stems are fairly long holding the blooms well above the husky growing plants. Certificate from Madison, New York and Cincinnati. **Plant—\$5.00 ea. Net**

Christmas Red (Dee Cee) S.C. "A." 1963

Blood red semi cactus with good form, and placement of bloom on fine stems. Size 11" x 6½" disbudded. Plants about five feet tall. Was runner up for the "Derrill Hart Award" for large dahlias for 1962. **Plant—\$7.50 Net.**

Florence Baker (Pennypack) S.C. "A." 1963

Another pure white dahlia of very good proportions. Size 12" x 6". Fine plant growth and good stems. Gold medal winner of A.D.S. Sweepstakes Award, and two Achievement Awards. **Plant—\$5.00 Net.**

Lakeside Queen (Simpson) I.D. "A." 1963

Large white informal decorative. Size 11" x 6". This is a pure white and does not burn so easily as most whites. "Derrill Hart Award" winner for 1962 for large dahlias. It won five Certificates of Merit with an average of 85.28. **Plant—\$5.00 Net.**

Shirley Jane (Simpson) F.D. "B." 1963

Light blend of primrose yellow, shading to Orient pink. Blooms 8" x 6½". Five foot plants. Runner up for the "Derrill Hart Award" for "B" size dahlias in 1962. Won five Certificates of Merit with average of 85.35. **Plant—\$5.00 Net.**

Vicky (Lundgren) I.C. "B." 1963

Rhodamine purple with white base. Dark blend. Strong straight stems. Winner of five Seedling Sweepstake Awards, three Achievement Awards. **Plant—\$3.50 Net.**

Vonne (Lundgren) S.C. "B." 1963

Dark blend. Blood red with white background, giving a silvery effect. Good stems and blooms are placed well. Winner of three "Certificates of Merit," three "Achievement Awards." Four "Seedling Sweepstakes." A good keeper when cut. **Plant—\$3.50 Net.**

COMSTOCK ORIGINATIONS



"ART LINKLETTER"



"FIESTA"

4—Art Linkletter (Comstock) S.C. 1957. "A." See above

Extremely large blooms of Primrose Yellow. Blooms up to 14½ by 11 inches. Stems are long and very strong. Average field grown plants are about four feet tall. Very vigorous plants with healthy green foliage.

Art Linkletter has won many largest and best bloom in show awards, four American Home Achievement medals and Certificates of Merit at the American Dahlia Society Trial Grounds at Oakland, Calif., Cincinnati, Ohio, and at Atlanta, Georgia. Also won two American Dahlia Society Seedling Sweepstake awards and is on Mr. Webb's Eastern Dahlia Review, and is on the Flower Grower Honor Rolls of R. T. Eddy and Conrad E. Faust. This dahlia can be grown to tremendous proportions.

Plant—\$1.25.

52—Fiesta (Comstock) I.D. "A." 1959. See above

Color of this dahlia is rather unique in its blending of red and yellow. Blooms have good full centers and plant produces very many large 11 x 7 inch blooms that are early. The coloring in this dahlia is very unusual. Plants are strong growers about four feet tall. Heavy foliage. Winner of an American Home Achievement Medal and two A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes Awards. Was awarded two Certificates of Merit at the A.D.S. trial grounds, and is on Mr. Webb's Eastern Dahlia Review.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

53—First Lady (Comstock) F.D. 1955. "B." See page 4

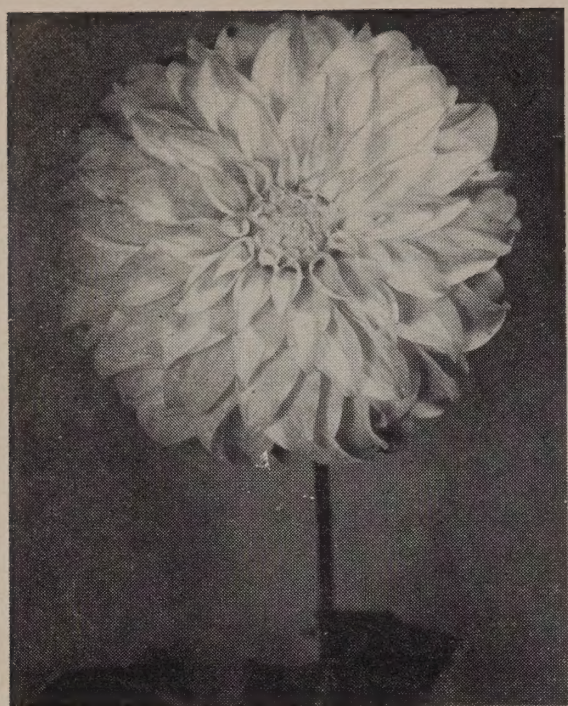
"First Lady" is Dresden yellow throughout according to the Royal Horticultural Society color chart. Blooms 8 x 6 inches field grown. Greatest attraction of "First Lady" is the unusual petal formation, which are very broad but pointed at the ends and each one folds back in an extremely regular formation, completely wrapping around and covering the stem. Every bloom is fit for exhibition. A very early and prolific bloomer. Plants are 3 to 4 ft. high. Beautiful foliage and excellent stems. Proven best in its class by show and Trial Ground reports. A WINNER of four American Home Achievement Medals, A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes Award Gold Medal.

"First Lady" was on all four of the Flower Grower Honor Rolls. Certificate of Merit awarded at Farmingdale, N.Y., score 85.1—Cincinnati, Ohio score, 85E.

"First Lady" was the national gold medal winner for "B" size dahlia introductions in the 1955 Seedling Sweepstakes Awards of the A.D.S.

A well grown bloom of "First Lady" will win in any show.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.



"FIRST LADY"



"GROUCHO MARX"

55—Florence Chadwick (Comstock) C. 1953. "B." See page 10

Pure glistening white with petals slightly tipped lavender, becoming more predominant at center of blooms. Foliage very dark green and insect resistant. Blooms are medium size averaging about eight inches across with corresponding depth, and are held facing and slightly up on long strong stems. Blooms are very good keepers with plenty of substance.

Plants are tall and upright in growth, being very prolific in producing both early and late blooms in abundance with good tight centers.

Florence Chadwick won American Home Achievement medals in both the San Diego and Inglewood, California dahlia shows, and was on all four of the 1953 Honor Rolls for the Flower Grower magazine.

Florence Chadwick has the distinction of being the first dahlia to have ever scored high enough to win a Certificate of Merit at each one of all the A.D.S. Trial Grounds.

Florence Chadwick was the winner of the **Derrill Hart Memorial Medal** for 1952, having the highest average score of three trial grounds.

Plant—\$1.25.

68—Groucho Marx (Comstock) S.C. 1956. "A." See above

"GROUCHO MARX" is a magnificent pure white semi-cactus dahlia. Petals fold back completely giving the blooms tremendous depth, early bloomer, continuing to bloom throughout the season till cold weather sets in.

We have exhibited blooms of this fine variety in largest bloom classes fourteen inches in diameter and eleven inches in depth. Even field grown blooms if disbudded easily attain a diameter of twelve inches with corresponding good depth. Plants are strong, thrifty growers requiring little or no staking. Stems are long and strong. Plants are four to six feet tall.

"GROUCHO MARX" WON FIVE AMERICAN HOME ACHIEVEMENT MEDALS AND FIVE AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY SEEDLING SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS, including shows at San Diego and Orange County, California. Shipped by air freight, succeeded in winning the same coveted awards at MIDWEST DAHLIA SHOW, MILWAUKEE; A.D.S. DAHLIA SHOW at NEW YORK; CENTRAL STATES SHOW at CHICAGO and the MEDAL of the DAHLIA SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA at SAN FRANCISCO.

Groucho Marx was placed on all four Honor Rolls of the Flower Grower magazine.

Plant—\$1.50.

WE DO NOT SHIP PLANTS BY MAIL



"HELEN HAYES"



"LULA PATTIE"

71—Harvey Atherton (Comstock) F.D. 1956. "A." See page 6

A formal decorative rhodamine purple dahlia. Blooms are very large, well grown blooms about fourteen by six or eight inches.

Stems are strong and foliage very dark green. Plants of this variety are beautiful; they branch well and the symmetrical plants produce many large blooms at one time.

This fine dahlia won an AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY SEEDLING SWEEPSTAKES AWARD AT SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

74—Helen Hayes (Comstock) I.D. "A." 1958. See above

Color of this fine dahlia is cobalt violet becoming darker at base of petals, it will be classed in the lavenders. Petals are very broad, but wavy enough to be classified as informal decorative, a very pleasing formation. Size of blooms about 10 x 6 inches. Very long and rigid stems, with excellent foliage. Plants about four feet tall.

Helen Hayes was winner of two Certificates of Merit. At Farmingdale, N. Y. score 85.6 and at Atlanta, Georgia, score 85.0. It has also won three American Home Achievement Medals, at San Diego, Inglewood and La Mesa, California.

It also won three American Dahlia Society seedling sweepstakes awards and was given the A.D.S. Gold Medal for the highest scoring "A" size dahlia for 1957.

We feel honored to be granted permission to name this fine dahlia for the First Lady of the Theatre, Helen Hayes.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

101—Lula Pattie (Comstock) S.C. 1960. "A." See above

Blooms of this beautiful white dahlia easily attain a diameter of 13 to 14 inches and a depth of 9 to 10 inches. Blooms face and slightly up. This variety produces an abundant amount of lovely large blooms both early and late in the season. Excellent S.C. formation. Husky growing plant five to six feet tall. Very long and strong stems, good keeper when cut.

Winner of the American Home Achievement Medal, A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes, and also won a Certificate of Merit at all five trial grounds, with highest average score 85.82 causing it to win the **Derrill W. Hart Memorial Medal** for 1959.

Lula Pattie has won for both best and largest bloom in show many times, it promises to be a truly great new variety, and must be grown to really appreciate its many fine qualities.

Root—\$5.00. Plant—\$2.00.



"BOOKER PURPLE"



"HARVEY ATHERTON"

106—Mars (Comstock) I.D. 1953. "A"

Color is deep rich red, reverse of petals edged gold. Petals are very broad. Blooms are very large and can easily become a major contender for largest bloom classes. We have grown blooms better than twelve inches by ten.

Plants are of medium height with nice strong stems holding the blooms at a perfect facing angle. Very dark green insect resistant foliage adds to the beauty of this variety.

For those who like their dahlias large, they should not overlook this one.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

108—Maureen Connolly (Comstock) F.D. 1954. "B." See page 13

Medium size blooms of sulphur yellow are borne in profuse abundance with long stems on a very symmetrical growing plant with unusually fine foliage. Blooms average about 7½" to 8" in diameter by about 5" deep. Flowers keep exceedingly well when cut. Plants four to five feet tall.

This fine dahlia is named for Maureen Connolly, former World's Amateur Tennis Champion from San Diego, California.

This dahlia has won The American Home Achievement medal at the San Diego County Dahlia Society Show, won a Certificate of Merit at the A.D.S. trial grounds at Long Island Agricultural and Technical Institute, scoring 86.3 and at Trial Garden at Atlanta, Georgia 85.2. Was placed on all four Flower Grower Honor Rolls. This dahlia is a fine addition to any dahlia garden.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

109—Melisande (Comstock) I.D. 1957. "B"

This variety is a deep velvety purple. It is a medium size dahlia about 7x4. One of the most interesting features is the artistically curled edges on its petals. Stems are very good and foliage is very dark green. Plants about three and one-half feet tall. Very early bloomer. Unfortunately, blooms of this lovely flower did not coincide with flower show dates and we were not able to show it. However, it did receive a certificate of merit at the A.D.S. Trial Ground at Oakland, Calif. and Cincinnati, Ohio and is on Mr. Webb's Eastern Dahlia Review.

Plant—\$1.25.

STRELITZIA REGINAE

(Bird of Paradise)

Plants for sale from ten to fifteen inches tall. They are grown in four inch pots and are ready for repotting or transfer to open ground. They are healthy, clean, robust plants and we are asking only \$1.00 each for them



"MR. PRESIDENT"



"STARDUST"

116—Mr. President (Comstock) Inc. C. 1955. "A." See above

Light blend of salmon rose to empire yellow at center. Blooms 10 x 5 inches field grown. Petals broad at base but roll to a nicely formed lacinated incurved cactus. Plants four feet tall with strong stems and beautiful foliage. Open growing plant.

Major awards of "Mr. President" are: Best bloom in show at San Diego in 1946-48 and 1952. A.D.S. seedling sweepstakes awards at San Diego, Orange County and New York A.D.S. shows. On the Flower Grower Honor Rolls of R. T. Eddy and Lynn B. Dudley. Certificate of Merit at Cincinnati and Southern Trial Grounds.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

149—Stardust (Comstock) F.D. 1950. "A." See above

True pink with small lines of silver running length-wise of the petals. These lines are very prevalent just before the blooms are ready for picking and enhance the beauty of the flowers, but as they develop to maturity the entire bloom becomes solid pink. Blooms disbudded average under normal growth about 10 x 5 inches. The stems of this variety are long and strong, averaging twelve inches to the first set of leaves. Blooms face and can be cut when only half open and will continue to develop in water. Plants about five feet high, open growing type. Early bloomer and very good keeper when cut. Winner of Achievement Medals in San Diego, Santa Ana and Inglewood, California. On all Honor Rolls.

Plant—\$1.25.

GREEN PLANTS

Our green plants are produced from base cuttings of the finest of our various varieties, and roots or clumps used for this purpose are selected from our healthiest stock selected during the growing season. These cuttings are rooted in special propagating benches and after being well started are transferred to four-inch earthen pots. When the plants are found to be well established they are moved to a partially shaded place, where they become accustomed to the weather. When plants show a definite trend toward new growth they are ready for our customers. We find that the quality and size of blooms for exhibition are just as good as when grown from roots. We highly recommend plants to our customers.

WE DO NOT SHIP PLANTS BY MAIL

STANDARD VARIETIES

1—Arab Queen S.C. "A"

Coral and pink semi cactus blooms shading to yellow in the center. Flowers are held facing on good stems. Plants are strong growers. **Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.**

2—Arthur Godfrey (Pittman) F.D. 1951. "A"

A very large formal decorative of orient red, with orange shadings. Excellent stems hold the massive blooms facing up. One of the strongest of growers. Blooms 11 x 6. **Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.**

3—Art Linkletter (Comstock) S.C. 1957. "A." See page 3

4—Autumn Blaze (Johnson) I.D. 1948. "A"

Fiery red centered with shades of gold toward the ends of petals. Blooms are very large. **Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.**

5—Ballego's Glory (Holland) F.D. "B"

Deep rust red edged gold, slightly lacinated petals, finest of stems, medium size. **Plant—\$1.00.**

6—Ballego's Surprise (Ballego) C. "B"

A most beautiful white dahlia of very interesting formation. Large type, excellent stems with best of keeping qualities. **Plant—\$1.00.**

7—Barbara Schell (Wind) I.D. "A"

8—Beloved (Bishop) F.D. "A"

Reddish purple blooms 9 x 6. Good strong stems. Blooms face and slightly up. Short growing plant. Very good foliage. **Root—\$1.50. Pot Root—\$1.25. Plant—\$1.00.**

9—Beryl May (Australia) C. "A"

Lemon yellow. Blooms about 10 inches in diameter. Good stems. **Plant—\$1.50.**

10—Big Ben (England) C. "A"

This is one of the largest cactus varieties, blooms about 12 to 13 inches in diameter and good depth. Color is crimson and it does not fade. Short growing plant. This variety should make a good record on the show tables in this country. **Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.**

11—Black Monarch (Pape) S.C. 1946. "A"

Dark oxblood red. A very fine and strong grower. Stems of exceptional length hold the huge flowers well out of plant. Plenty of substance and a good keeper when cut. Blooms well over ten inches. **Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.**

12—Booker Purple (Booker) S.C. "B"

Cobalt violet in color, blooms have a sheen over petals that adds to the attractiveness of this dahlia making it an eye catcher. Short growing plants, but good straight, strong stems. Exceptionally good keeping qualities, with lots of substance. Certificate of Merit awarded at Ohio Valley Trial Grounds. **Root—\$5.00. Plant—\$2.00.**

13—Boshuku (Japan) C. "A"

Tomato red throughout. Blooms about 10 x 5. Nice growing plant, and good root maker. **Root—\$3.00. Plant—\$1.50.**

14—Bunny (Australia) C. "A"

This is an "A" size dahlia, clear lemon yellow. Prolific bloomer, plants about four feet. Good substance. **Plant—\$1.00.**

15—Burghfield (England) S.C. "A"

Large pink similar in color to pink giant. Blooms about 10 x 5. Won best in show at Long Beach, California, 1962. Good stems and foliage. **Plant—\$2.00.**

16—Burnbrae Memories (Australia) I.D. "A"

Primrose yellow. Three foot plants, good stems and fine foliage. Good root producer. **Plant—\$1.25.**

- 17—**Carl G. Dahl** (Scott) I.D. 1937. "A"
Blooms 12 x 6. Pointed petals curling slightly. Old rose.
Root—\$1.50. Pot Root—\$1.25. Plant—\$1.00.
- 18—**Catherine** (Australia) F.D.
Large formal decorative white dahlia that is a good performer on the exhibition table, very good stems and a prolific bloomer.
Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.
- 19—**Charles Ondrick** (Roberts) S.C. "A." 1957
Dark blend, dusty autumn blending to burnt sienna and french purple. Blooms 10 x 5 inches. Certified at two trial grounds and placed on all four Honor Rolls of the Flower Grower Magazine.
Plant—\$1.00.
- 20—**Cherokee Beauty** (Ricks) I.D. "A"
A large informal begonia pink dahlia. Vigorous grower but short plants.
Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.
- 21—**Cherokee Brave** (Dahliadel) I.D. 1938. "A"
Oxblood red. Holds its color in all weather. Very large.
Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.
- 22—**Clariam Parrish** (Wolbert) C. "A"
A clear, deep shade of pink with creamy centers. This large cactus has good substance and petals are slightly incurved. An excellent exhibition variety, and a good grower. Size 10 x 5.
Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.
- 23—**Croydon Ace** "A" I.D. (Australia)
One of the very best, very large, yellow dahlias. Blooms 12 x 7. Sulphur yellow. Short growing plant. Heavy dark green foliage. This is a real good exhibition dahlia.
Root—\$3.00. Plant—\$1.50.
- 24—**Croydon Classic** (Australia) C. "A"
Crimson red. Fine petaled blooms of good size and form. Excellent stems and plant growth.
Plants—\$2.00.
- 25—**Croydon Dainty** (Australia) F.D. "A"
Large buff colored blooms. Short growing plant. Rugged plant growth.
Plant—\$1.00.
- 26—**Croydon Delice** (Australia) I.D. "A"
Delicate pink with base of petals showing a glow of yellow. Petals very broad with a tendency to show staghorn formation. Clean upright growing plants. This is a good dahlia.
Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.
- 27—**Croydon Ideal** (Australia) F.D. "B"
A real brilliant red that has excellent F.D. formation. This should win on the show table. Medium height, sturdy grower.
Plant—\$1.25.
- 28—**Croydon Masterpiece** (Australia) F.D. "A"
Salmon orange, shaded tan. Giant flowers better than twelve inches in diameter are quite common. Strong grower and prolific bloomer. One of the very best.
Plant—\$1.25.
- 29—**Croydon Renown** (Australia) I.D. "A"
Pink petals blending to yellow. Wide long petals. Blooms 11 x 7. Strong stems. Prolific bloomer for so large a flower.
Plant—\$3.00.
- 30—**Croydon Robin** (Australia) F.D. "A"
Blood red with maroon edgings. Blooms 10 x 5. Short growing plants. Dark green foliage, should do well on the show table.
Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.
- 31—**Croydon Russet** (Australia) F.D. "A"
Large rust colored blooms about 11 x 6. Thrifty growing plant. The unusual color of this variety should make it very popular.
Plant—\$1.25.
- 32—**Croydon Supreme** (Australia) F.D. "A"
Dark red blooms 9 x 6. A very formal type dahlia. Good heavy foliage. Short growing plant.
Plant—\$1.00.



"FLORENCE CHADWICK"

33—Danny (Marker) I.C. "A"

This bright pink cactus dahlia is doing well in shows throughout the country. Blooms better than 9". Long, strong stems, sturdy growing plant and very profuse bloomer.

Root—\$3.00. Plant—\$1.25.

34—Del Rosa (Australia) F.D. "A"

Deep rose overall but deeper at center of bloom. Long stems and good foliage.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

35—Dixie's Winedot (Dixie) I.D. 1943. "A"

Blooms 10 x 6. Variegated white background splashed with wine red. Long stems, fine growing plant. Three Achievement medals to its credit and Honor Roll dahlia.

Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.

36—Earl Wood F.D. "A"

Formal large yellow blooms. Good form and fine stems and foliage.

Plant—\$1.50.

37—Emory Paul (Baynes) F.D. "A"

One of the largest of late introductions. Blooms 12 to 15 inches in diameter, good depth. Tall plant vigorous grower. Color is rosy purple. Another late bloomer. This dahlia has great possibilities for many largest blooms in show awards.

Plant—\$3.00.

38—Enfield Salmon (Australia) F.D. "B"

Pure salmon blooms of medium size. Excellent form. Prolific bloomer. Medium sized plant.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.

39—Esquire (Martin) F.D. 1951. "A"

A very large purple formal which naturally attains a diameter of eleven to twelve inches. Petals are pointed.

Plant—\$1.25

40—Eva Stamford (Holland) I.D. "A"

The broad petals are slightly incurving; from a soft lemon in the center, color changes into a distinct lilac at the edgings of this 13" exhibition bloom.

Plant—\$1.00.

41—Fiesta (Comstock) I.D. 1959. "A." See page 3

42—First Lady (Comstock) F.D. 1955. "B." See page 3 and 4

43—Five Star General (Ramage) F.D. "A"

Blend of amaranth and tyrian pink petals, edged maize yellow. Blooms ten to thirteen by six inches. Very strong stems. Blooms facing side. Sturdy plant growth, excellent foliage. Free and consistent bloomer. Winner of "Derrill Hart" Medal, on all Honor Rolls and Certified at three trial grounds.

Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.

44—Florence Chadwick (Comstock) C. 1953. "B." See page 4 and 10

45—Follies de Dentelle (Holland) C. "B"

This dahlia is pure clear pink. Deeply lacinated. Very good stems and a prolific bloomer.

Plant—\$1.00.

46—Front Page (Ballego) C. "B"

Creamy white. Medium sized blooms, good long strong stems. This dahlia has been recommended very highly as an exhibition flower with top qualities.

Plant—\$1.50.

47—Gina Lombaert (Holland) C. "B"

Salmon with yellow center. Excellent form. Good plant growth and strong stems. Holland cup winner for 1960.

Plant—\$1.50.

48—Golden Dandy C. "B"

Canary yellow. Nice clean growing plant. Petals of blooms are deeply lacinated. Good for exhibition purposes.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.

49—Golden Halo (Wolfe) S.C. 1955. "B"

Golden yellow with a blush of apricot. Blooms 8 x 4. Medium plants.

Plant—\$1.00.

50—Golden Heart (Holland) S.C. "B"

Orange red blending to a center of gold. This is truly a most beautiful dahlia. Excellent growing plant about four feet tall. Long stems.

Plant—\$1.00.

51—Golden Wizard I.C. "B"

Golden yellow. Deeply lacinated. Petals twist and curl into a pin wheel formation. Fine long stems.

Root—\$3.00. Plant—\$1.25.

52—Goulburn (Australia) C. "A"

Reddish apricot at petal tips blending to a lemon yellow in center of flower. Very striking color. Large specimen blooms.

Plant—\$1.00.

53—Groucho Marx (Comstock) 1956. "A." See page 4

54—Harvey Atherton (Comstock) 1956. "A." See page 5 and 6

55—Heather McBride (Australia) F.D. "A"

A large velvety red dahlia with excellent depth. Strong grower.

Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

56—Helen Hayes (Comstock) 1958. "A." See page 5

57—Hillcrest Gratuity S.C. "A"

Coral pink blending to yellow at base of petals. This is a very striking color. Plants about 3 1/2 feet tall. Good stems.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

58—Jane Lausche (Rocky River) S.C. "A"

Rosy mauve with the tips of petals white. An excellent bicolor that always gives a good account of itself in the shows. Good stems and thrifty grower. Blooms 10 x 6.

Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

59—Joan Carroll (Australia) I.D. "A"

Large lavender pink blooms with base of petals shading to almost white. Fine stems. Medium height plant.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.00.

60—Joe Tierney (Australia) I.C. "A"

Autumn with red overcast. Narrow tightly twisted petals curving toward center of blooms. A most beautiful true type cactus. Blooms 10 x 5.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

61—Juanita (South Africa) C. "B"

Color of this fine exhibition dahlia is purple shaded ruby red. Medium growing plant. Prolific bloomer and a very good root producer.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

62—Kelvin (Australia) I.D. "A"

Salmon rose. One of the large ones. Very consistently producing show caliber blooms. Fine growing plant.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

63—Kelvin Brown (Australia) I.D. "A"

This variety comes as close to mahogany with a little more brown as anything we have seen. Blooms 11 x 6. Good stems and very dark green foliage.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.00.

64—Kenya (Veile) I.D. 1960. "A"

Nasturtium orange suffused rose. A real giant informal decorative one of the largest. Petals are broad and wavy. Vigorous plant growth and foliage. Good bloomer.

Root—\$3.50. Plant—\$1.50.

65—Kidd's Climax (New Zealand) F.D. "A"

Pink and cream overlaid helio. Very large blooms with good form.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.

66—Kismet F.D. "B"

Terra Cotta in color. Blooms are very formal in formation.

Plant—\$1.50.

67—Kiyo Hime (Yoshida) I.D. "A"

Variegated, empire yellow splashed cherry red. Blooms about 10 x 6. One of the high scoring dahlias at Eastern Trial Ground in 1960. Score 85.5.

Plant—\$2.00.

68—Kompliment (Germany) S.C. "B"

Lilac pink suffusing to white at center. Early and prolific bloomer. Petals are serrated. This variety should do well on the show table.

Plant—\$1.25.

69—Kwinana Light I.D. "A"

Orange red. Very brilliant in color. Blooms 11 x 5. Very striking in the garden.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

70—Lakeside Queen (Simpson) S.C. "A." 1963. See page 2

71—Laura Rees (Rees) 1960. I.D. "A"

A large informal decorative purple dahlia. Good strong growth medium in height. Strong thick foliage.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

72—Lavender Beauty (Robens) C. 1957. "A"

Lavender with base of petals white. Very beautiful and artistic blooms. Blooms 9 to 11 inches in diameter. All blooms facing. Very good stems and foliage. This is a good dahlia, well grown blooms would have an excellent chance for best bloom in almost any show.

Plant—\$1.50.

73—Lavender Perfection (New Zealand) F.D. "A"

Pure lavender giant blooms of perfect quality. Exhibition blooms of 13" are common. Plants have good habits and grow free. Award of Merit, Royal H.S. London cup winner 1954, as the best dahlia of foreign origin, after two years Holland-competition.

Root—\$1.50. Pot Root—\$1.25. Plant—\$1.00.



"MAUREEN CONNOLLY"

74—Lavengro (England) I.D. "A"

A good lavender that will produce many exhibition blooms during the season. All habits of growth are good. One of the finest in its class. **Plant—\$1.25.**

75—Lena Hall (Australia) I.D. "A"

Deep rose pink. Blooms 10 x 5. Short growing plant. Good strong stems. Thrifty grower. **Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.**

76—Lula Pattie (Comstock) I.D. "A." 1960. See page 5

77—Maffie (Johnson) S.C. 1940. "A"

Intense bright red blooms about eleven or twelve inches across. Tall growing plant. Achievement Medal and Honor Roll dahlia. **Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.**

78—Margaret Durross (Fuchs) I.D. 1954. "A"

Large auroelian yellow, flushed scarlet. Almost orange. Blooms 11 x 7. Long strong stems hold flowers facing. Vigorous growing plants, about 5 feet.

Root—\$1.50. Pot Root—\$1.25. Plant—\$1.00.

79—Mars (Comstock) I.D. 1953. "A." See page 5

80—Mary Elizabeth (Robens) I.D. 1954. "A"

Cherry red. Very large blooms of better than twelve inches with very good depth. Husky grower. Winner of A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes and listed on all four Honor Rolls. **Root—\$1.50. Pot Root—\$1.25. Plant—\$1.00.**

81—Maureen Connolly (Comstock) F.D. 1954. "B." See page 6 and above

82—Millgrove (Australia) I.D. "A"

Very large lavender blooms on medium growing plants. One of the best in lavender from Australia. Real exhibition type. **Plant—\$1.25.**

83—Miss Rose Bean I.D. "A"

Tomato red is perhaps the best color description of this variety. Blooms about 10 x 5. Medium grower, and very robust plant. **Plant—\$1.25.**

86—Mr. President (Comstock) Inc. C. 1955. "A." See page 7

87—Mrs. Hester Pape (Pape) I.D. 1946. "A"

A large reddish purple which has one of the most outstanding show records. Achievement Medals at Cleveland, East Liverpool, and Baltimore. Color is bordering between red and purple but classed purple according to color charts. Plants are quite tall with excellent foliage and habits of growth. Usual size of blooms is eleven to twelve inches, but blooms up to fourteen inches are not uncommon. Blooms are generally informal but very well finished blooms may be semi-cactus.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

88—Mrs. McDonald Quill F.D. "A"

Crimson heavily tipped white. Blooms facing slightly up on good stems. A winner in its class. **Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.**

89—Nagels Solidite (France) S.C. "B"

True intense candy pink. Blooms 7 x 5. This is a very prolific bloomer with excellent stems. **Plant—\$1.00.**

90—New Amsterdam (Ballego) I.D. "A"

Cherry red. Blooms very large up to 14". This might be another one to try for largest bloom in the show. **Plant—\$2.00.**

91—Nita (Hale) 1959. C. "B"

Cyclamen purple with small streaks of orchid purple. Winner of 22 American Home Achievement medals. This dahlia has all the fine growing qualities of its parent Juanita. **Plant—\$1.00.**

92—Orange Majesty (Hadow) I.D. 1955. "A"

Orange with faint shadings of bronze throughout the large blooms. This is an "A" size dahlia of good merit. Thrifty grower and robust plant. Excellent stems. Honor Roll of 1955. **Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.**

93—Otto's Thrill I.D. "A"

Camellia rose blending to deep yellow shades at edges of petals. A very large dahlia. **Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.**

94—Our Friend (Robens) I.D. 1955. "A"

This outstanding dahlia is lavender. Very large. Blooms have been displayed up to 14 x 9 which would rate this variety among the very big ones that could compete for largest in show. This dahlia is on two Honor Rolls and is winner of A.D.S. Sweepstakes. **Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.**

95—Patricia Spollen (Johnson) I.C. 1952. "A"

Persimmon orange incurved cactus blooms about 10 x 6 that are produced on long strong stems on a leathery insect resistant plant. Petals are serrated. Winner of 9 American Home Achievement Medals, on all Honor Rolls and winner of many awards. **Plant—\$1.00.**

96—Pat Schultz (Australia) I.D. "A"

Lavender pink. Very large blooms of excellent exhibition form. Very strong stems. Keeps well for such a large flower. **Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.**

97—Pirate Treasure (Marsh) S.C. 1951. "A"

Color is rich autumn suffused red. Excellent stems and plant growth. Winner of ten achievement medals in its year of introduction. **Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.**

98—Polly Bergen F.D. "A"

Pink with gold tips. Blooms 10 x 5. Good bloomer and vigorous grower.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

99—Pop Harris (Australia) F.D. "A"

Bright red with excellent form, large blooms and fine growth. Very good stems holding the flowers facing.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

100—Preas Pride (Preas) S.C. 1957. "A"

Orchid purple with white tips. Perfect formed blooms with this combination of colors are most attractive. Medium growing plant.

Pot Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.50.

101—Pride of Holland (Holland) C. "B"

Seven inch pure pink straight cactus. Good growing plant. One of the best in its class.

Plant—\$1.00.

102—Pride of Naarden (Holland) I.D. "A"

Large lavender blooms with good strong stems. Blooms are of top exhibition quality.

Plant—\$1.50.

103—Pride of Parkersburg (Smith) S.C. 1949. "A"

Primrose yellow. Achievement Medal winner and Honor Roll dahlia. Excellent stems.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.

104—Prime Minister F.D. "A"

This dahlia is rosy purple, very large. Good strong stems, fine growing plant. Winner of many awards. One of the outstanding large foreign introductions.

Plant—\$1.50.

105—Princess Dianne (Partain Comstock) I.D. 1951. "A." See page 20

This dahlia is without a doubt the best red that we've ever had the pleasure of growing. It holds its color during hot weather unusually well, and the deep rich blood red blooms are held high out of a very dark green plant. Flowers face outward and slightly up. Very prolific bloomer and good keeper when cut. Blooms average about nine by six inches. Petals are broad and slightly lacinated. Achievement Medal and A.D.S. Certificate of Merit winner and on the Flower Grower Honor Rolls for 1951.

Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

106—Professor Van Slogteren I.C. "B"

Deep lilac pink, good depth. The stems are long and strong, petals of blooms are lacinated.

Plant—\$1.50.

107—Promotion I.C. "B"

Champagne with old rose shades. Petals are all rolled and twisted and deeply serrated.

Plant—\$1.50.

108—Quinns Tidal Wave (Australia) F.D. 1953. "A"

Giant yellow that can be grown to immense proportions. Top winner in Australia scoring very high. Perfect long strong stems.

Plant—\$1.25.

109—Rees Sunrise (Rees) C. "B"

Beautiful deep yellow cactus variety, excellent stems and nice foliage. Medium growing plant. Winner of Certificates at Oakland, Atlanta and Madison. This is a good one.

Root—\$2.50. Plant—\$1.50.

110—Regina F.D. "A"

Deep wine red overlaid purple. An exhibition variety of exceptional merit.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.00.

111—Rizilla (Chambers) St.C. "B"

Tyrian purple. Excellent stems and foliage. Won 3 A.D.S. seedling sweepstakes awards. Certified at Farmingdale, 85.6 and East Lansing, 85.0. Perfectly formed dahlia and fit for best bloom in show award if properly grown.

Plant—\$1.00.

112—Roben's Showboat (Robens) I.D. 1957. "A"

Lavender. A seedling of Powder Puff. Has nice long stems and good foliage. Size of blooms up to 14½ inches by 10 inches deep, facing slightly up, very few on top. Won the American Home Achievement Medal, and A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes Award, and also the largest bloom in the show at East Liverpool, Ohio, on Eddy's Honor Roll and has other winnings.

Pot Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.00.

113—Ronlea Martin (Australia) F.D. "A"

Rhodamine purple, center of blooms a little darker. Excellent stems and plant growth. 10 x 5. **Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.**

114—Schubart F.D. "B"

This is a top quality bicolor. Brilliant red with clean white tips. Long strong stems. This is fit for most any show. **Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.00.**

115—Seiki (Japan) S.C. "A"

Enormous blooms of top form. Color red, stems very long and strong. This dahlia has great depth and will be a strong contender for largest bloom class in shows. A real champion. **Plant—\$2.50.**

116—Silver Wedding (Hulin) C. "A"

The color is white with a faint mallow pink cast. Blooms about 10 x 5. Very long strong stems. Beautiful five foot plants, very free flowering.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

117—Stardust (Comstock) F.D. 1950. "A." See page 7

118—Superclass St.C. "A"

Deep bronze and salmon overlaid with gold. Blooms are very large for a fine petaled cactus variety. Fine growing plant. **Plant—\$1.25.**

119—Surprise (Baker) S.C. "A"

An outstanding semi cactus exhibition variety. Color is peach. Excellent stems. Blooms 10 x 6 inches. This is a good one for the show table.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

120—The Real Glory (Stephenson) F.D. "A"

Ten-inch blooms of crispy white. Prolific bloomer with dark green foliage.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

121—The Standard (Australia) I.D. "A"

Sulphur yellow blooms 12 x 6. Petals very broad. Thrifty grower, good long stems. A truly good dahlia.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

122—Tina Marie (Warren) C. 1960. "A"

A straight cactus. Persian Rose and Cadmium Yellow. Blooms face on side. Vigorous grower with fine foliage.

Root—\$2.00. Pot Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.25.

123—Top Affair (Holland) C. 1960. "B"

This is a light yellow with perfect form. Petals come back all the way to the stem, forming a complete ball. Good growing habits, fine stems and a good keeper.

Plant—\$1.00.

124—Uchuu (Nakaniski-Yoshida) F.D. "A"

Rose Red 12 x 7. Long, strong stems, blooms facing. Height, six feet. A truly spectacular dahlia.

Plant—\$1.50.

125—Vera Seyfang (Australia) I.D. 1958. "A"

Light mallow rose. Blooms about 10 inches by 5. Formation different than the usual run of dahlias. Each petal has a definite petaloid within it, of the same color. Petals are cup shaped. Thrifty growing plant. Many exhibition blooms. Winner of the Derrill W. Hart Medal for 1957.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

126—Verna Martin (Australia) F.D. "A"

Beautiful large lavender blooms of fine exhibition quality make this variety an immediate favorite. Medium growing plants.

Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.

127—Vivien Leigh (Australia) I.D. "A"

Rose pink overlaid lavender. Blooms 10 x 6. Strong growing plant.

Root—\$2.00. Plant—\$1.25.

128—Vogue (Holland) I.C. "B"

Peach blossom, suffused gold. One of those pastel colors that we all like. This makes up well in containers.

Plant—\$1.50.

- 129—Wagschals Goldkrone** (Germany) I.C. "B"
 Bright golden yellow with a touch of reddish brown on tips of petals in center of bloom. Very artistic formation. Long stems and prolific bloomer. **Plant—\$1.25.**
- 130—White Nobby** (Australia) I.D. "A"
 Very large pure white dahlia. Good habits of growth. **Plant—\$1.50.**
- 131—William Evans** I.C. "A"
 Orange, veined and flushed crimson. Good size in both diameter and depth. Petals twist and curl, and interlace within each other. Four foot plant. Good for exhibition. **Root—\$1.50. Plant—\$1.00.**

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PLANTS AND ROOTS OF CUT FLOWER VARIETIES

	Root	Plant
Aristocrat "C" Red.....		1.00
Beauty of Baarn "C" Yellow.....		1.00
Cheerio "SC"		1.00
Chinese Coral "Ball" Autumn.....		1.00
Chinese Lantern "FD" Orange.....	1.50	1.00
Dansuese "C" Pink.....		1.00
Front Row "FD" Orange.....		1.00
Gerry Hoek "FD" Pink.....	1.50	1.00
Grace "C" Pink.....		1.00
Hoeks Yellow "C" Yellow.....	1.50	1.00
Miss Rose Fletcher "SC" Pink.....		1.00
Scarlet Beauty "ID" Red.....		1.50
Top Choice "IC" Vermillion.....		1.00

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WE DO NOT SHIP PLANTS BY MAIL

"Success is in the way you walk the paths of life each day;
 It's in the little things you do and in the things you say.
 Success is not in getting rich or rising high to fame;
 It's not alone in winning goals which we all hope to claim.
 Success is being big of heart and clean and broad of mind.
 It's being faithful to your friends and, to the stranger, kind.
 Success depends on character and how you think things through.
 It's in the lives of those you love and all they learn from you."
 (Author unknown)

COMSTOCK'S NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON DAHLIA SEED

PROVEN BY TEST

Growing dahlias from seed is a real adventure, as dahlia seed do not come true to the parent plant. Every seed will be different. It's fun to watch them come into bloom to see what you can get from a packet of seed. Seedling dahlias will have many of the characteristics of their parent, therefore when choosing seed, if you have a preference for cactus types choose a parent that is a cactus type, etc. If you prefer pastel shades in your seedlings be sure the parent is a pastel color, or if you prefer dark shades, choose a dark color parent. All the seed from a light color flower will not be light, many will be dark, but more of them will be of the light shades. The same holds true for type, if you choose a cactus type parent, all the seedlings will not be cactus type but the majority of them will. **If you are a real adventurer we would suggest that you try our mixed seed. This seed is made up of an equal quantity of every variety listed below mixed together.**

From these listed varieties have come such great champions as Art Linkletter, Fiesta, First Lady, Florence Chadwick, Groucho Marx, Helen Hayes, Lula Pattie, Mars and many others.

Fiesta
First Lady
Florence Chadwick
Helen Hayes
Arab Queen
Mars
Autumn Blaze
Beloved
Bunny
Cherokee Beauty
Chas. Ondrick
Terrific

Clariam Royalty
Col. Little
Cr. Dainty
Cr. Eclipse
Cr. Russett
Del Rosa
Dixies Winedot
Esquire
Hillcrest Gratuity
Joan Carroll
Joe Tierney
Troubador

Juanita
Kelvin
Kelvin Floodlight
Lavender Perfection
Lavengro
Margaret Duross
Mary Elizabeth
Miss San Diego
Mr. President
Nagels Solidite
Our Friend
Windlassie

Patricia Spollen
Pride of Parkersburg
Princess Diane
Quinn's Tidal Wave
Roben's Showboat
Schubart
Miss Liberty
Stardust
The Real Glory
Tina Marie
Vera Seyfang
Wm. Evans

Special seed of any one variety kept separate, from the above listed varieties are obtainable at prices listed below until we are sold out. Please list a second and third choice.

Mixed Seeds
25 seed — \$1.25
100 seed — \$5.00

Specified Variety
25 seed — \$1.50
100 seed — \$6.00

QUALITY PLUS SEED

This seed is taken from fourteen varieties that have proven they are good parents. These are placed in a screen house with a hive of bees to cross pollinate them. This seed will be sold mixed only. Please do not request seed from a given variety from this lot, they will be sold mixed only. Seed parentage of this grouping follows:

Art Linkletter
Arthur Godfrey
Croydon Ace

Five Star General
Freda Canning
Groucho Marx

Kenya
Kidd's Climax
Lula Pattie

Maffie
Mrs. Hester A. Pape
Surprise

Plus seed from two of our largest unnamed seedlings. A tomato red I.D. and a maroon S.C. both over 15" in diameter.

QUALITY PLUS SEED ARE PRICED AT

25 seed \$2.50

100 seed \$10.00

All seed prices Net

Seedling Dahlia Plants

We have available to those who like to grow seedlings some very fine plants ready to set out in the open ground. These are from our mixed seed.

PER DOZEN — \$3.00

FLAT OF 35 — \$7.50

WE DO NOT SHIP PLANTS BY MAIL

Instructions for Planting Seedling Dahlias

Seed from dahlias do not come true to the parent plant, that's why it's so interesting to plant seed. Each seedling plant is a new variety. Seed taken from a given variety may reproduce all colors and types of dahlias, and will form a fine root system the first year, but roots from these seedlings will reproduce themselves.

All of our new varieties come from seedling dahlias. They are the select ones from thousands of seedlings grown each year.

Seed should be sown in seed flats in a fine mixture of soil and leaf mold, kept in a warm location and kept damp but not wet. Seedling plants normally begin appearing in about a week or ten days if sown in these flats covered with about one-half inch of finely screened soil. They make rapid growth and when about four inches high should be transplanted to the open ground. We like to plant our seedlings in rows about two or three feet apart and about a foot apart in the rows.

By planting close like this it gives us the opportunity to thin out the bed by removing the undesirable ones as soon as they bloom.

If further information is needed, please feel free to contact us. We will be glad to assist you with any added information desired to help you grow better dahlias.

Dahlia Culture

The **instructions for planting dahlias** as expressed in this article are primarily meant for our local climatic conditions around **Southern California**. Not being experienced with conditions of growing in other localities our instructions may not be of the best in your area, especially in those parts of the country where summer rains are so prevalent, therefore if you live in some of these parts of the country we would like to suggest that you follow instructions that can be obtained from your local seedsmen and specialists along these lines.

We find that dahlias do fine in the open sun or slightly shaded areas, preferably if the broken sun is during mid-day.

A few of the musts for good results are disease-free and vigorous stock, proper planting, watering, fertilizing, spraying, disbudding, cutting flowers, and digging and storing clumps.

First, **obtain your stock from a reputable grower**; he should have good disease-free stock and will gladly assist you as to colors and types of varieties that will best fit your requirements.

For best results, about a month before planting time cover the soil with an application of barnyard manure, or broadcast bonemeal at the rate of about ten pounds to each one hundred square feet, and dig this in to the depth of a spading fork. This should greatly help to **condition your soil for planting**.

When plants or roots are ready to set out, drive a stake (we use 1" x 1" red-wood stakes 5 ft. long, pointed on one end) about one foot into the ground. This can be used to place identifying tags on, and for supporting the dahlia plant and blooms later on in the season. Dig a hole alongside of this stake about 4" deep if in heavy soil and about 6" deep in light soils. Place the root on its side in this hole with sprout or eye about four inches from the stake facing up. Then cover root to about halfway to ground level, and as plant grows fill in until hole is filled all the way. If your soil was in a good moist condition at time of planting as it should be, the roots will need no further watering until after the sprouts have appeared above the surface of the ground.

When setting out plants they should be watered quite heavily once every five days, and as soon as soil becomes workable it should be cultivated or well mulched.

When plants are about six or eight inches high the center should be pinched out. This causes the plant to branch.

When buds start to appear, which will be at the end of each lateral or branch, an application of about one-half cup of 4-10-10 commercial fertilizer should be broadcast around the plant, being careful not to come any closer than about 6" from the stalk. It is best to water immediately after applying fertilizer. This works it well

into the soil around the plant. Repeating this operation every two weeks until about the middle of September will keep plants well nourished and promote thrifty growth and production of many fine blooms right up to the last of the season, especially if disbudded properly.

On large or medium sized varieties, buds will appear on the ends of each stalk in groups of three. The two side buds should be removed and the center bud left to bloom. By so doing all of the strength that would have gone to the three buds goes to the one that is left, causing it to grow much larger. The next two or three sets of branches (at each leaf below the terminal bud) may also be removed. Be sure that at least one set of branches are left to produce your next set of flowers.

Blooms should be cut in the evening about sundown. Cut them with long stems and place them immediately in deep cold water. They will draw in all the cold water needed to show themselves at their very best the following morning. Be sure blooms are ripe, by this we mean that the blooms are well opened, petals starting to roll back to the stem. If picked too soon blooms will wilt almost immediately.

Plants should be sprayed with one of the various brands of sprays recommended by your local seedsman. We find spraying each week keeps plants free from insects, and thus reduces chances of disease spreading through your garden.

We find in our area that roots should be dug as soon as they dry up, which will be about the last of November or middle December. First cut off stalk about three inches above the ground, then dig in a circle around the plant, keeping about one foot away from the stalk. Lift dirt and tubers out of the ground very carefully to avoid breaking the necks of tubers.

Store tubers in a cool place where there is no draft. We recommend splitting the clump through the middle of the stalk, thus letting the surplus water drain from the hollow stalk. If allowed to remain, this moisture might cause the tubers to rot during storage.

In the spring clumps may be washed off and divided, leaving at least one eye or sprout on each division and then these divisions are ready for planting.



"PRINCESS DIANNE"

PINTO TAG NURSERY



"MISS LIBERTY"

Dahlia Societies

Membership dues in the American Dahlia Society are \$5.00 per year which entitles you to their bulletin which is published quarterly. Much good information regarding growing of dahlias is available to you in it.

Send subscriptions to the **American Dahlia Society, Treasurer, Harry Dreyer, 431 Lincoln Avenue, Glen Rock, N.J.**

Fill in name and address and \$5.00 and mail to above.

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